

Message Text

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51

ACTION AID-59

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P R 151220Z FEB 74

FM AMEMBASSY ACCRA

TO AMEMBASSY NIAMEY PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY OUAGADOUGOU PRIORITY

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 2562

UNCLAS ACCRA 0902

AFDROUGHT

E.O. 11652:N/A

TAGS: SWEL XY

SUBJ: HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO DROUGHT VICTIMS: VISIT OF
SOUTHERN BAPTIST CONVENTION WEST AFRICAN DIRECTOR

1. REVEREND JOHN MILLS, DIRECTOR SOUTHERN BAPTIST CONVENTION OF WEST AFRICA RESIDENT IN ACCRA, IS TRAVELING UPPER VOLTA AND NIGER IN RESPONSE REQUESTS FOR ASSISTANCE TO DROUGHT VICTIMS FROM BAPTIST MISSIONARIES IN NIGER. TRIP IS PRIMARILY A FACT-FINDING ONE TO ENABLE MILLS MORE ACCURATELY ASSESS WHAT BAPTIST CONVENTION CAN DO.

2. MILLS, HOWEVER, DOES NOT RPT NOT WANT TO MAKE EITHER HIMSELF OR BAPTIST CONVENTION A NUISANCE AND WISHES COOPERATE WITH GOVERNMENTAL AND OTHER AGENCIES' (CRS, ETC.) RELIEF EFFORTS. HE THEREFORE WISHES TO DISCUSS SITUATION WITH AMERICAN OFFICIALS IN BOTH OUAGADOUGOU AND NIAMEY. WE HAVE TOLD HIM HE WOULD BE WELCOMED AND PROVIDED WHATEVER ASSISTANCE POSSIBLE. HE DRIVING TO UPPER VOLTA AND WILL ARRIVE OUAGADOUGOU TOMORROW, FEBRUARY 16. STAYING AT TERMINUS HOTEL AND WILL CALL FOR APPOINTMENT ON MONDAY, FEBRUARY 18. MILLS WILL ARRIVE BY PLANE NIAMEY TUESDAY AFTERNOON, FEBRUARY 19, AND WILL BE STAYING AT GRAND HOTEL.

3. ACCORDING MILLS, BAPTIST CONVENTION MAY BE IN POSITION

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CONTRIBUTE SOME FIVE THOUSAND DOLLARS PER MONTH AND SUPPLY SMALL

NUMBER DOCTORS AND NURSES TO RELIEF EFFORT DEPENDING ON HIS
ESTIMATE REQUIREMENTS OF SITUATION.

4. MILLS WELL AND FAVORABLY KNOWN TO EMBASSY. HE IS SINCERE
INDIVIDUAL WHO WANTS TO HELP AND NOT GET IN THE WAY OR INTERFERE
IN OVERALL RELIEF EFFORT. REQUEST ADDRESSEES PROVIDE ALL
APPROPRIATE ASSISTANCE. MANY THANKS.
HADSEL

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